

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

In the specification, paragraphs have been amended on pages 4-5.

Claims 1, 3-6, and 10 are currently being amended.

Claim 2 is being canceled.

Claim 11 is being added.

This amendment adds, changes and/or deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1 and 3-11 are now pending in this application.

The Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the careful consideration given to the claims.

Objections to the Specifications

The PTO has objected to the specification due to typographical or grammatical errors. The Applicant has amended the specification to fix these errors.

Objections to claims 3, 4, and 6.

The PTO has objected to claims 3, 4, and 6 due to minor typographical or grammatical errors. The Applicant has amended these claims to fix these errors.

Rejection of claims 1-6 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

The PTO has rejected claims 1-6 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. For at least the following reasons, this rejection is traversed.

Claims 1, 3, and 10 have been amended to removed the allegedly indefinite language.

Claim 5 has been amended to clarify that it was dependent from claim 1 and to correct the antecedent basis error.

For at least these reasons, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejection of claims 1-6 and 10 as being anticipated by Kami.

The PTO has rejected claims 1-6 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 4,717,171 to Kami et al. ("Kami"). For at least the following reasons, this rejection is traversed.

First, claim 2 has been cancelled, rendering this rejection moot.

Second, claims 1, 3-6, and 10 have been amended to include features that are not disclosed by Kami. Claim 1 has been amended to include the features "a rear suspension member...which is comprised of a front suspension cross member formed so as to extend in a vehicle widthwise direction from the one rear side member to the other rear side member, a rear suspension cross member disposed rearward of the front suspension cross member so as to extend in the vehicle widthwise direction from the one rear side member to the other rear side member, and suspension cross members disposed along a vehicle longitudinal direction and connecting the rear suspension cross member and the front suspension cross member and formed in a double cross shape."

Also, claim 10 has been amended to include the features "a rear suspension means...which is comprised of a front suspension cross means formed so as to extend in a vehicle widthwise direction from the one rear side means to another rear side means, a rear suspension cross means disposed rearward of the front suspension cross means so as to extend in the vehicle widthwise direction from the one rear side means to the other rear side means, and suspension cross means disposed along a vehicle longitudinal direction and connecting the rear suspension cross means and the front suspension cross means and formed in a double cross shape."

Kami teaches that the front suspension cross member (lateral link) 21 does not extend from one side of the vehicle to the other. (FIG. 2 of Kami). The lateral link 21 is only connecting a part of the vehicle 72 to the trailing arm 1, which is extended along a longitudinal direction of the vehicle. Also, Kami discloses that the trailing arm (longitudinal arm) 1 is provided along the profile of the fuel tank 91. (FIG. 1 of Kami).

On the other hand, the claimed invention includes the features of a rear suspension member that comprises a front suspension cross member, which extends in a vehicle widthwise direction and is contoured along the rear profile of the fuel tank. Therefore, the claimed configuration is different from the Kami's configuration.

Finally, Kami fails to teach or disclose the claimed invention's configuration in which the rear suspension member is formed in a double cross shape.

Because Kami fails to teach every claimed feature of the independent claims 1 or 10, claims 1 and 10 are not anticipated by Kami. Also, dependent claims 3-6 and 11 are also patentable for at least the same reasons as the independent claims.

For at least these reasons, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

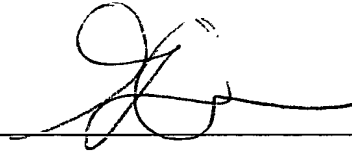
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

11/21/05

By



FOLEY & LARDNER LLP
Customer Number: 22428
Telephone: (202) 672-5426
Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

Glenn Law
Registration No. 34,371